UK - KING LIBRARY
500 S LIMESTONE ST
LEXINGTON KY 40506-0001

Rockets play in Fayette Invitational

Mount Vernon Signal

Serving Rockcastle County Since 1887

Mount Vernon, Kentucky 40456 - Volume 114 - Number 32 Ph. (606) 256-2244 - .50 a copy - Thursday, May 10, 2001

Youth held in death of local man

A 14-year-old juvenile is being held in the Boyle County Juvenile Detention Center charged with the murder of a Rockcastle County man.

According to a news release from the Kentucky State Police, James Phillips, 50, of Conway Road was assaulted during an altercation on April 30 at a residence on Sweet Water Road, 14 miles north of Mt. Vernon.

Phillips died last Thursday at the University of Kentucky Medical Center in Lexington.

Kentucky State Police Detective Gary Lane charged the juvenile, who is apparently the nephew of Phillips, with murder on Monday.

Because the boy is a juvenile, state police are releasing very little information, although the *Signal* has learned that the altercation involved an amount of money owed.

Sources also say that the Rockcastle County Attorney's office will ask that the boy be tried as an adult because of the severity of the crime.

Funeral services for Phillips was held on Monday.

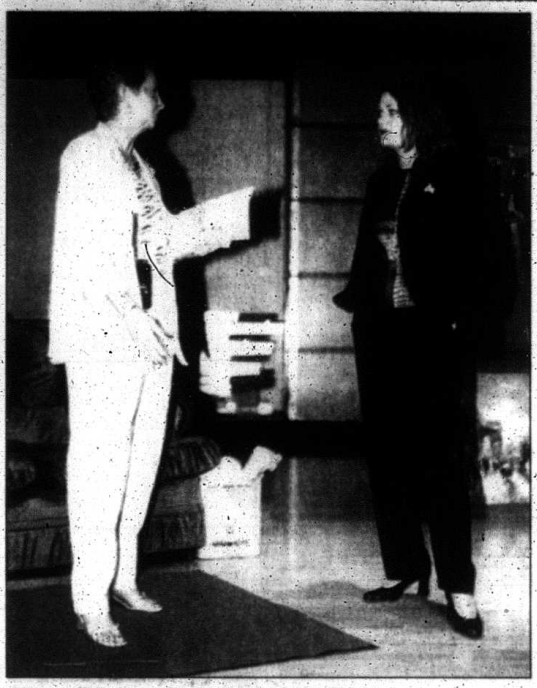
Parent election at high school

The election for the parent members of the Rockcastle County High School Site Based Decision Making Council will be held on Monday, May 14, at 6:30 pm in the high school auditorium.

Incumbent members Paul Abney and Cindy Anderkin, face opposition from Renee Burdett, Rebecca Cash, Howell Holbrook, Jr. and Jeff Laswell.

The new council will take office on July 1, 2001.

The elected parent members will join teacher members Connie Riddle, Dana Singleton and Travis Brenda.



Miss Kentucky Whitney Boyles, right, talks with Rockcastle County High School principal Ruth Allen, before she delivers her anti-smoking message to students at RCHS. Miss Kentucky was in Rockcastle County on Wednesday and visited several schools.

Mt. Vernon council hears complaints, takes some action

By: Richard Anderkin

It was complaint Monday at the regular meeting of the Mt. Vernon City Council on Monday night.

Many of the complaints were made by citizens, some by council members themselves and one by a member of the volunteer fire department.

The council heard from landowner Jim Cox about the trash and possible sewage in Town Branch which runs through his property.

They also heard from volunteer fire fighter Brian Hansel, who said that a Mt. Vernon police officer did not assist fire fighters when they encountered a questionable male subject at a local fire because they were a short distance out of the city limits.

They also heard from, again Mrs. Ernest Bullock about a sewer bill she has been paying for nearly 30 years, although she has never had sewer service.

They also heard from Ms. Pauline Hunt about a property dispute, between her and her former step-son that also involved city property along the old Brodhead Road and they also heard from Ms. Zj Graves who was upset because of the construction of Berea National Bank on Richmond Street, because she says that the city has lost some of their right-of-way in an alley that runs adjacent to her property.

City Council member Gene Cromer also asked why the city was paying to have both city parks mowed when free labor was available from work release prisoners at the Rockcastle Detention Center.

The council took no action on at least two of the complaints, but did agree to look into the others.

Mayor Karen King became obviously agitated with Mrs. Hunt's comments and told her the council would discuss her subject no longer.

She apologized to Mrs. Graves because she had not called back over the right-of-way question and she asked water superintendent Dennis McClure to look into the use of county prisoners to mow the parks.

Council woman Clarice Kirby said that she did not think that the Mayor should have allowed Berea National to take five feet of city property without bringing it to the council first.

At the suggestion of councilmen Joe Mullins, McClure was also asked to walk Town Branch with Cox and

Cont. to A-12

Fugitive arrested

On Wednesday, April 25th, Randy Johnson, Jr., 43, of "T" Street, Mt. Vernon, was arrested without incident.

The Rockcastle County Sheriff Department was notified by the Fourth Judicial Drug Task Force of Sevierville, Tennessee, of a fugitive living in Rockcastle.

With the joint efforts of the Drug Task Force, the Rockcastle Sheriff

Cont. to A-12

Rape complaint leads to other charges against Orlando man

A Rockcastle County man is being held in the Rockcastle Detention Center under a $75,000 cash bond after he was arrested on Sunday.

According to authorities, Clayton D. Cox, 26, of Orlando was arrested about 1 p.m., after his wife lodged a complaint of rape against him.

When police went to Hickory Flats in the Climax section of the county to arrest Cox on the rape charge they discovered an apparent methamphetamine lab.

Police say that members of the federal drug enforcement agency and the Kentucky State Police Hazmat team were dispatched to the scene where they processed the evidence.

Cox is due back in court on Monday. He was charged with first degree rape, fourth degree assault, terroristic threatening, possession of a controlled substance and manufacturing methamphetamine.

Cox's wife was treated at the Rockcastle Hospital for injuries related to the alleged rape.

Kentucky State Trooper Scott Miller and Rockcastle Deputy Sheriff Dwight Brown were the arresting officers.

Hawkins Curve wreck injures six

Six people were hurt, four seriously, Tuesday in a head-on collision on a rain-slickened Hawkins Curve near Crab Orchard.

Kentucky State Police said the two vehicles collided when a 1996 Dodge driven by Timmy Jackson of Bimble in Knox County went out of control in the sharp curve 0.8 miles east of Crab Orchard and struck a westbound car head on.

Cont. to A-12

Mt. Vernon Assistant Police Chief and Rockcastle Ambulance Service EMT Anita Barron administer aide to Mrs. Dorothy Williams, 48, a teacher at Brodhead Elementary School, who was involved in a two car collision in front of Wendy's Restaurant in Mt. Vernon on Tuesday morning. Another vehicle turned in front of Mrs. Williams, causing the wreck. After Mrs. Williams hit the vehicle in the roadway, she traveled several feet and hit two vehicles sitting in the parking lot. Mrs. Williams was taken to the Rockcastle Hospital where she was treated and released.

Roundstone School was recognized Tuesday night at the Rockcastle County Board of Education meeting as a National Distinguished Title I School. Last month, teacher Beverly Owens, and instructional assistant Kathy Reed went to New Orleans for the National Title I conference where they received the award on behalf of the school. Also in the photo are students Raquel Bullock, Josh Trump and Jeffery Lewis. Roundstone has had the highest test scores in the county in the past few years.

Two students at the Rockcastle County Middle School were recognized last Thursday by the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet for their efforts in a statewide poster contest. The theme of the contest was Adopt-A-Highway for clean-up. Above, front row, from left are Scotty Cromer, an eighth grader at the middle who won the 14-17 division and Mackenzie Marrie, a sixth grader who came in third. There were 2,400 entries in the contest. In the back row, from left are: Rockcastle County Judge-Executive Buzz Carloftis, middle school principal Johnny Hale and art teacher Debbie Bugg, who sponsored the contest locally.